

Serial No. 10/007,177
5962-01-CA

Please replace all prior claims in the application with the following:

Claims 1-16 (canceled)

Claim 17 (currently amended): A method of making a pharmaceutical dosage form having an outer layer and a central core, the method comprising:

feeding components of said outer layer and said central core into first and second extruders, respectively;

coextruding an indefinite length of ~~an at least partially melted~~ a melted or softened central core and outer layer from the second and first extruders, respectively, to form a co-extrudate having a longitudinal axis, said central core including a pharmaceutical agent disposed in a controlled-release composition, and said outer layer being substantially impervious to water or bodily fluids thereby limiting diffusion of fluids into said central core;

slicing said co-extrudate across the longitudinal axis thereof to form discrete pellets, each of the pellets having an exposed central core at opposite ends; and

cooling said co-extrudate to solidify the at least partially melted central core and outer layer.

Claim 18 (previously amended): The method of Claim 17, further comprising permitting said co-extrudate to harden before slicing said co-extrudate.

Claim 19 (previously amended): The method of Claim 17, further comprising slicing said co-extrudate perpendicular to said longitudinal axis.

Claim 20 (previously amended): The method of Claim 17, further comprising heating said co-extrudate to a temperature in the range of 30°C to 250°C during coextrusion.

Claim 21 (previously amended): The method of Claim 20, further comprising heating co-extrudate to a temperature in the range of 40°C to 200°C during coextrusion.

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Claim 22 (canceled)

Claim 23 (previously amended): The method of Claim 17, further comprising slicing said co-extrudate with a laser.

Claim 24 (canceled)

Claim 25 (previously added): The method of claim 17, wherein the first and second extruders are twin-screw extruders.

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